

Spring Mill State Park

All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

Programs at all our state parks and reservoirs: www.interpretiveservices.in.gov/programs

Nature Center <i>Open Daily 10am-5pm</i>	Mountain Bike Rental <i>Sun 10a-6p; Mon-Tue 12p-8p; Wed-Sat 8:30a-9p</i>
Pioneer Village <i>Open Daily 9am-5pm</i>	<i>Check out bikes at Camp Store \$5/hour (includes helmet)</i>
Virgil I. Grissom Memorial <i>Open Daily 8:30am-4pm</i>	Hayrides <i>Wednesday – Friday - Saturday 6:30pm - 7:30pm - 8:30pm</i>
Twin Caves Boat Tours <i>Open Daily 9am-5pm \$3/adult, \$1/child (under 11)</i>	<i>Register at Camp Store \$3/person or \$40/wagon</i>

Please arrive on time for scheduled programs.
Spring Mill State Park follows Eastern Daylight Time.

Public programs are designed for individuals and families.
If you will be bringing an organized group, contact the Nature Center in advance for a copy of our program catalogue and schedule a private program just for your group (prices vary). (812) 849-4129

Get advance notice of special events and programs!
Sign up for our email list at the Nature Center, Pioneer Village Grist Mill, Spring Mill Inn, or email springmillstatepark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

HP-HP *Healthy Parks – Healthy People*
Get “INShape” with us, and discover what it takes to keep a state park healthy.




LOOK FOR OUR TREE-SHAPED SIGNPOST

WATCH FOR THE ROYAL-NATURALIST

June 29 – July 29, 2007


Friday, June 29

- 10:30am



Walk With Us! – Join us for a brisk fitness walk through the Mitchell Karst Plains Nature Preserve. Wear good walking shoes (you may also want to bring water). Meet at the Oak Ridge Shelter parking lot (1 hr). **HP-HP**
- 2:30pm

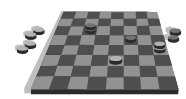
Stitch by Stitch – Through hands-on practice, you’ll learn how to sew by hand using a running stitch and a bland stitch and discover what items were hand-sewn by woman in the 1860s. Pioneer Village, Weaver’s Cabin Summer Kitchen (1 hr).
- 8:30pm



Pioneer Village Living History Stroll – Who were the people who lived in Spring Mill Village during the 1800s? Hear of their history, stories, and the rise and fall of village. *Donations Accepted*. Meet at Concession Stand (1 hr).

Old-Fashioned Independence Celebration


Saturday, June 30

 **Checkers Tournament** – Register for the tournament **between 9am and 10am** inside the Pioneer Village Gristmill; cost is \$1/person to participate. The first matches will begin at 10am (*players will be given a start time and location for each of their matches*). **The Grand Prize Winner will be awarded a wooden checkers set (handmade by the Village Woodworker) and a \$5 gift certificate for the Village Mercantile.** The Runner-Up will also receive a \$5 gift certificate for the Village Mercantile.

11:00am Weave It Up – Learn the craft of stick-weaving and use your new skill to make a red, white, and blue star. Pioneer Village, Meeting House (45 min).

11:30am Sawmill Demonstration - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).

1:00pm Make Your Own Marbles – Make your own set of marbles out of clay and then learn how to play this classic game. ***Cost is \$3/person; limited to 20 participants – first-come, first-served.*** Pioneer Village, Distillery (45 min).

 **2:00pm The Declaration of Independence** – Join us to sing patriotic songs, share interesting tidbits about our founding fathers, and help post copies of the “Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America” throughout the village. Pioneer Village, Upper Residence Lawn (30 min).

2:30pm Sawmill Demonstration – See above description.

2:45pm The Blab School is Open – Step into the shoes of a pioneer student and attend our version of a “blab” school. Pioneer Village, Meeting House (40 min).


4:00pm Flags of Our Fathers – Create your own United States flag with an historic design (there weren’t always 50 states!) to fly at your campsite or home. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).

9:00pm Faerie Folklore – Some of the people that settled Indiana brought with them stories of faeries from the “old country.” We’ll share some Indiana stories and superstitions surrounding the Fae during this evening program. *Bench seating is limited; we recommend bringing your own chairs/blanket.* Campground Amphitheater (next to site #108) (30 min).


Sunday, July 1

11:30am Sawmill Demonstration - See description under Saturday.

11am-12pm Pioneer Game of Graces – Learn to play an 1800s-era game that taught young girls “graceful” movement (and was also played “as a lark” by the boys!). Pioneer Village, Gristmill Lawn.

1-2pm  **Independence Day 1863** – Find out how Indiana’s pioneers celebrated our nation’s freedom in 1863... do we still carry on their holiday traditions today? Watch for the roving naturalist in the Upper Residence Lawn.

1:00pm Make-Your-Own Set of Graces! – Register at the Gristmill beginning at 9am; cost is \$5/set. Supplies are limited - only 15 sets may be made (*multiple people may work on the same set together*). Pioneer Village, Tavern (1 hr).

2-4pm  **Vintage Baseball Game** – The modern game of baseball emerged in 1845 and although some of the rules have changed over the last 150 years, it’s still just as much fun to play! Come and watch as living history re-enactors play an authentic 1860s baseball game. Sycamore Field (next to Sycamore Shelter).

2:30pm Sawmill Demonstration - See description under Saturday.

3:00pm Creek Critter “Crawl” – Get your feet wet as we hunt for insects that live underwater in Mill Creek! You may be surprised how many critters hang out in the water. Meet in Butternut Grove picnic area, between the two foot bridges (45 min). **HP-HP**

Monday, July 2

1-2:30pm Want to Cook Like the Pioneers? – Stop by and pick up copies of authentic recipes used during pioneer times. Pioneer Village, Lower Residence Summer Kitchen.

4:00pm A Taste of Indiana – Explore how the types of food served in Indiana have changed or stayed the same over the last 200 years, share memories of “classic” Indiana dishes (green bean casserole, anyone?), and sample a few Indiana products. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (45 min).

Tuesday, July 3

- 12:00pm** **Tools of the Trade** – Dig into the blacksmith’s “tool box” to learn about the different tools of the trade and how they were made. Pioneer Village, Blacksmith’s Shop (30 min).
- 1:30pm** **Snakes of Spring Mill** – We’ll introduce you to some snakes that live at Spring Mill while discussing their habitat and life cycles. You won’t want to miss this opportunity to have an up-close encounter with three of our resident snakes. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (45 min).
- 3:30pm** **Creek Walk** – Join us for a walk into Donaldson valley... as we hike along the creek, we’ll be watching for herons, ducks, turtles, muskrats, and other water-loving animals. Meet in front of Sycamore Shelter (1 hr). **HP-HP**



Wednesday, July 4 Fun on the Fourth!

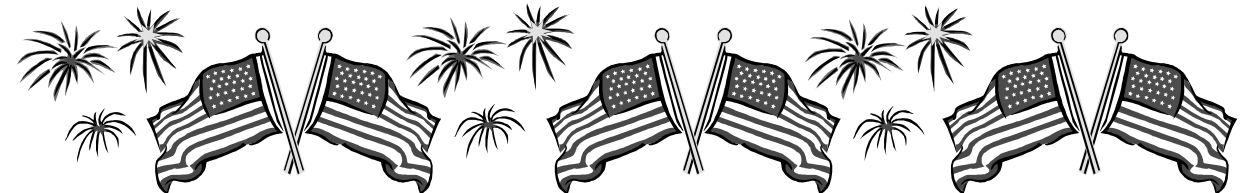
- 11am-5pm** **Pioneer Village Scavenger Hunt** – Search for signs of the past as you explore the Pioneer Village during this unique scavenger hunt. *Prizes for all participants!* Drop by the old souvenir stand (next to the Butternut Grove picnic area) to get started.
- 11:30am** **Donaldson Cave: Underground Timeline** – Explore the past, present, and future state of Donaldson Cave as we tour a large, dry cavern and a small side passage. *Bring a flashlight, wear good shoes, and be prepared for a little mud.* Meet at the Donaldson Cave parking lot at the top of the Trail 4 stairs (1 hr). **HP-HP**
- 1:30pm** **Patriotic Cord Making** – Using red, white, and blue string, you make a cord long enough to wear as a bracelet. Pioneer Village, Leatherworker’s Shop (30 min).
- 2:30pm** **Throwing the Table** – Join the village potter and watch the steps involved with making dishes for the table. Pioneer Village, Distillery (30 min).



Wednesday, July 4 Fun on the Fourth!

Continued...

- 3-4pm** **Summer Games** – Bring your family and join us to play some fun summer games! Watch for the naturalist along the sidewalk between Butternut Grove picnic area and the Pioneer Village.
- 7:00pm** **Kid’s Parade** – Kids are invited to bring their bike, tricycle, wagon, etc. to the Campground Amphitheater. A naturalist will have supplies to help you decorate your wheels! After we’ve finished decorating, the kids will parade their work through the campground loop. Meet at the Campground Amphitheater (1 hr).
- 9:00pm** **Circle ‘Round the Fire** – Join us for an evening of stories and legends around the campfire. *Bench seating is limited; we recommend bringing your chairs/blanket.* Campground Amphitheater (45 min).



Thursday, July 5

- 12:30pm** **Bird Buffet** – Discover the best types of seeds to attract birds and make your own recycled bird feeder. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).
- 2-4pm** **Spin, Span, Spun** – Drop by to watch how wool is transformed on the spinning wheel and learn the origins of common terms/phrases (Ever called someone a “spinster?”). Pioneer Village, Upper Residence Porch.
- 3:00pm** **Tell Me a Tale** – Explore some southern Indiana folklore and legends. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).

Friday, July 6

- 11:30am Hummingbird Haven** – Want to attract hummingbirds to your garden? Discover the best plants to grow for these tiny birds. Attendees will take home a start of cypress vine to add to their home garden. Pioneer Village, Formal Garden (30 min).
- 1-2:30pm Wondering about the Weather** – What effects do tornados, rain, hail, and other “bad” weather have on the environment? Look for the roving naturalist near the Concession Stand and find out! **HP-HP**
- 4:00pm Flower Power** – Summer flowers are blooming! Learn how to recognize a few that you might find here at Spring Mill and make some tissue paper flowers to take home. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (45 min).

Saturday, July 7

- 10am-1pm EarthCache Challenge: Caves and Karst** (GC131J2) – Bring your GPS unit, a digital camera (or Polaroid), and at least one other person (otherwise, who would take the pictures?) and participate in Spring Mill’s first EarthCache event! **Prizes for the top three teams! Check in your team (and start entering coordinates into your units!) from 10-11am at 38°44.318N 86°24.808W; all teams will be “set loose” in the park at 11am! HP-HP**
- 11:30am Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 2-4pm CITO – Spring Mill** (GC12E1K) – Come lend a helping hand and clean up the park during this CITO (Cache In – Trash Out) organized by a local geocacher. Work gloves, trash bags, and drinks will be provided. Meet at **38°44.318N 86°24.808W. HP-HP**
- 2:30pm Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).


Saturday, July 7 Continued...

- 6-8pm Naturalist on the Move** – Watch for the naturalist roving the campground this evening and learn about upcoming special events, ask questions about the park, and find out what special items she’s brought to share.
- 9:00pm Noises in the Night** – Prepare yourself for a night in the campground by learning about the different animals out and about at night – and what kinds of noises you might hear them making! *Bench seating is limited; we recommend bringing your own chairs/blanket.* Campground Amphitheater (next to site #108) (45 min).

Sunday, July 8

- 11:30am Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 1:00pm Nature Casts** – Create a unique paperweight or decorative item by preserving the shape of a leaf in plaster. As we wait for the plaster to set, we’ll learn how to identify some of the trees that donated the leaves. *Donations accepted to help cover the cost of the plaster.* Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (1 hr).
- 2-4pm Nature Thought of It First** – Explore some of the many ideas, medicines, and technologies that were inspired by (or came directly from) the plant world. Watch for the roving naturalist near the Concession Stand.
- 2:30pm Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 3:00pm Period Pottery** – Ceramic items were everywhere in 1800s-era Spring Mill Village – in the kitchen, on the table, even under the bed! Check out artifacts found in the village and learn how to tell the difference between hand-made and store-bought pottery. You’ll also see a demonstration of 1800s-style ceramics being made on the potter’s wheel. Pioneer Village, Distillery (30 min).
- 3:45pm Folded Flowers** – Learn to make origami flowers while discovering how to recognize some of the summer flowers now blooming in the park. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).


Monday, July 9

- 11:00am** **Learning Those Leaves** – Create your own piece of art using leaf rubbings while learning how to identify some of the trees that grow here at Spring Mill. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (45 min).
- 3-4pm**  **Eigenmann’s Little Fish** – Check out the ruins of culture basins used to study blind cavefish over 100 years ago and learn about the man who discovered them. Look for the naturalist along Trail 4, between Donaldson Cave and the staircase.


Tuesday, July 10

- 1:00pm** **Nest Dissection** – Find out what a hornet’s home looks like inside as we dissect one of their (empty!) nests. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).
- 3:00pm** **Soil Detectives** – Dig into the underground and find out what’s lurking under our feet. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).


Wednesday, July 11

- 12-2pm**  **Fun in the Sun!** – Bring your family over to blow some bubbles, make a simple craft, or join in another fun summer activity. Drop by the Outdoor Amphitheater at the Nature Center!
- 3:30pm** **Web of Dreams** – Learn how spiders construct their webs as you “weave” your own spider’s web (also known as a “dream catcher”). Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (45 min).
- 8:00pm** **Campground Critters** – Explore the lives of raccoons and skunks, learn why they love campgrounds, and find out how to discourage them from visiting your campsite! Campground Amphitheater (next to site #108) (45 min). **HP-HP**

Thursday, July 12

- 1:30pm**  **The Village Sawyer’s Timber Cruise** – Join the Village Sawyer on a hike to identify trees that had important uses in the 19th century Spring Mill Village. Meet next to the Sawmill in the Pioneer Village (45 min).

Friday, July 13

- 1-2:30pm**  **Snakes Get a Bad Rap** – Meet a real water snake and find out more about these fascinating reptiles. Watch for the roving naturalist near the Concession Stand.
- 4:00pm** **Spiders Get a Bad Rap** – Discover why you should love, rather than fear, those eight-legged arachnids! Nature Center, Program Room (30 min).

Saturday, July 14 1800s Music and Crafts Show

- 10am-5pm** **1800s Music Showcase** – Sit back, relax, and enjoy music of the 1800s! A schedule of musicians and locations will be posted in all of the park bulletin boards; you can also pick up your own copy at the Sheeks House or Gristmill in the Pioneer Village.
- 10am-5pm** **1800s Vendors Row** – Visit some people who specialize in 1800s-period crafts and discover unique items available for purchase, including special selections from our own Village artisans. Vendors will be set up along the sidewalk leading to the Pioneer Village.
- 11:00am** **Take Time to Play** – Learn about the different toys that pioneer children played with and make a simple cornhusk doll. Pioneer Village, Upper Residence Porch (45 min).
- 11:30am** **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 1:30pm** **Plane Talk** – Find out how old-time wooden planes (a carpenter’s tool) work and how they were used to craft furniture and other wooden wares in pioneer villages. Pioneer Village, Carpenter Shop (30 min).
- 2:30pm** **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 8:00pm** **Leave No Trace!** - Join Bill Houk, a Leave No Trace Master Educator, for a hands-on workshop based on seven principles that every outdoor-lover should know! Leave No Trace is a national and international program designed to train those who enjoy the outdoors to reduce and prevent their impact on the natural world. *Bench seating is limited; you may wish to bring your own blanket/chairs.* Campground Amphitheater (next to site #108) (1 hr). **HP-HP**



Sunday, July 15


1800s Music and Crafts Show

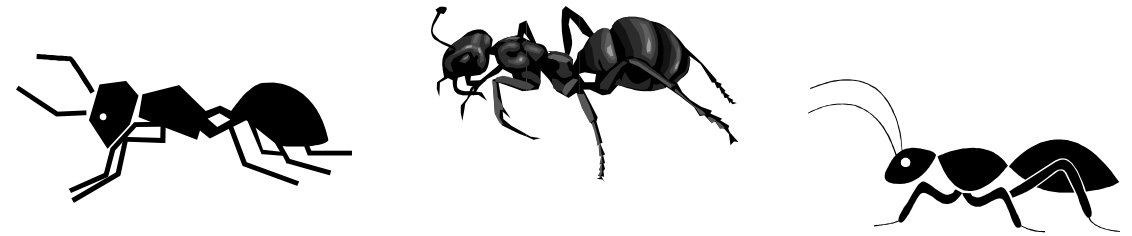
- 10am-4pm 1800s Music Showcase** – Sit back, relax, and enjoy music of the 1800s! A schedule of musicians and locations will be posted in all of the park bulletin boards; you can also pick up your own copy at the Sheeks House or Gristmill in the Pioneer Village.
- 10am-4pm 1800s Vendors Row** – Visit some people who specialize in 1800s-period crafts and discover unique items available for purchase, including special selections from our own Village artisans. Vendors will be set up along the sidewalk leading to the Pioneer Village.
- 11:30am Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 2:30pm Oh, the Possibilities!** – Make a miniature “possibles” bag and explore the different uses that pioneers had for such a bag. Pioneer Village, Leatherworker’s Shop (30 min).
- 2:30pm Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 3-5pm Young Artists Needed!** – Drop by the Nature Center and design a colorful poster to help share important information about the park with other visitors. Each “artist” will receive a Smokey Bear thank you gift, and the posters will be displayed in the Nature Center through the end of the month. **HP-HP**

Monday, July 16


- 1:30pm Pioneer Playthings** – Make your own whizgig toy while learning how pioneer children entertained themselves in the 1800s. Pioneer Village, Meeting House (30 min).
- 3:00pm Snakes, Snakes, Snakes!** – Meet three of our resident reptiles up-close while learning more about the snakes that call Spring Mill “home.” Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (45 min).

Tuesday, July 17

- 12:00pm Hit the Nail on the Head** – Explore the history and technique of nail-making as the village blacksmith demonstrates the craft. For a small donation, some visitors can even take home one of the finished nails. Pioneer Village, Blacksmith’s Shop (30 min).
- 3:00pm  The Ants Go Marching** – Explore the world of ants on this unique micro-hike. Meet on the back patio of the Nature Center (30 min).



Wednesday, July 18

- 1:30pm  Butterflies on the Wing** – Join us on a search to find and identify some of the beautiful butterflies that flit about along the lake edge. *Bring binoculars, if you have them.* Meet on the back porch of the Nature Center (45 min).
- 3:30pm A Child’s Life** – What was life like for children in the 1860s? Learn what was expected of a child and how they filled their days. Pioneer Village, Meeting House (30 min).

Thursday, July 19

- 8:00pm Local Boy to National Hero** – Virgil I. Grissom grew up here in Mitchell, Indiana and went on to become a national icon – one of the Mercury 7, our nation’s first astronauts. Learn about how he became America’s second man in space and also the space program’s first tragic loss. Campground Amphitheater (next to site #108) (45 min).

Friday, July 20 Moon Day

1-2:30pm Many Moons – The Earth isn't the only planet in our solar system with a moon. Learn a little about the moons that circle around other planets and color your own "moon" to take home. Drop by the Grissom Memorial.

3:30pm Places you won't want to miss... on the Moon! – Just like the Earth, our moon has its own "don't miss" locations and landmarks. We'll explore the moon and help you map out a potential future visit. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).

9:30pm I See the Moon and the Moon Sees Me – Explore the moon through stories, folklore, poems, and legends as we wait for the moon to rise. *Bench seating is limited; we encourage you to bring your own chairs/blanket.* Campground Amphitheater (next to site #108) (45 min).



Saturday, July 21 Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom Days

11am-1pm Solar Spotting - Ever wonder what the surface of the Sun looks like? Find out with the StoneBelt Stargazers by gazing at our star through special telescopes (don't try this at home!). Grissom Memorial.

1:00pm Model Rocket Launch – We need some spectators to watch as we launch model rockets high into the air and see them soar out of sight... and learn that what goes up always comes back down! Sycamore Field (next to Sycamore Shelter) (45-60 min).



1-3pm The Story of Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom – Drop in to find out more about how a local boy from Mitchell, Indiana became one of our nation's first astronauts. Steve Grissom, a relative of Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, will be on hand to share Gus's story and answer questions about exhibits in the memorial. Special video segments about Grissom's life and career will play in the atrium. Grissom Memorial.

Saturday, July 21 Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom Days

Continued...

2-3pm Bottle Rocket Construction – Put your rocket design skills to the test by building and decorating a pop bottle rocket (suitable for all ages). Bring it back between 4pm and 5:30pm and launch it into the air! Grissom Memorial (45 min).

3:00pm Build a Biplane – The beginnings of the space program go all the way back to the Wright brothers' first flight! Build your own wooden model of a biplane, similar to the craft that lifted the Wright Brothers into history at Kitty Hawk. Cost is \$5/kit; limited to 10 (first come, first served). Grissom Memorial (1 hr).



4-5:30pm Bottle Rocket Launch – Come join us as we pump bottles full of water and launch them into the air (a great way to cool off on a hot day)! If you made your own bottle rocket earlier today, bring it with you; if not, we'll have some extra bottles to share. Grissom Memorial, south parking lot.

9:00pm StoneBelt Stargazers' Star Party – Get a whole new perspective on the night sky when you view it through a telescope! The Stargazers will bring their telescopes to share - and point out some of the wonders of the night. And as we wait for the sky to get dark enough for viewing, the Stargazers will present an astronomy slide show. *We highly suggest bringing lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on (and your own binoculars or telescope, if you have one).* Swimming Pool parking lot (2 hr).




Sunday, July 22


Virgil I. “Gus” Grissom Days

- 11am-1pm Solar Spotting** - Ever wonder what the surface of the Sun looks like? Find out with the StoneBelt Stargazers by gazing at our star through special telescopes (don't try this at home!). Grissom Memorial.
- 1:30-3pm From the Archives** – Stop by and take a look at photo signed by all seven Mercury astronauts, historic newspaper articles and magazines celebrating the early space program, and other items from our Grissom collection. Grissom Memorial.
- 2:30pm Apollo: Triumph and Tragedy** – While Apollo placed the first people on the moon, it also took the lives of three astronauts – including a local hero, Virgil I. Grissom. Explore the stories, people, and events of NASA's Apollo Program during this fascinating slide presentation. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).
- 4:00pm Space: The Final Frontier** – Learn about the preparations being made by NASA for the first manned mission to Mars and consider where else in space the future may take us. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).


Monday, July 23

- 1:00pm**  **“Big Wheel Keep on Turning”** – Learn how a small volume of water is used to turn a very big wheel. We'll take a look at how the Gristmill's water wheel works and then walk up to Hamer Cave to see how the water gets funneled down the mill flume. Meet at the stone steps of the Gristmill (south side) in the Pioneer Village (30 min).
- 3-4pm Hoosier Quest Series** – Want to earn a bandanna, patch, unique lapel pin, and other goodies? We'll tell you how you can earn them through the Indiana DNR's new “Hoosier Quest” series! There are options for families of all ages and individuals (ages 5 and up) – including a level that can be completed in a single weekend! Watch for the roving naturalist in the upper level of the Nature Center. **HP-HP**


Tuesday, July 24

- 10-11am**  **Lawrence County Astronauts** – Not just one, but three(!), astronauts have roots right here in Lawrence County. Learn who they are and how they've contributed to the nation's space program. Watch for the roving naturalist in Grissom Memorial.
- 3:30pm Feeling Fishy** – Learn about the types of fish that live in Spring Mill Lake and make a fish craft to take home. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).



Wednesday, July 25

- 11:30am Be a Pioneer Potter** – Dig into clay and make your own pinch pot to take home while learning about pottery in the 1800s. **Cost is \$4/person; limited to 10 participants – first-come, first-served.** Pioneer Village, Distillery (45 min).
- 3:00pm**  **Roosevelt's Tree Army** – Do you know the story of the Civilian Conservation Corps? This remarkable program played a huge role in the development of Indiana's state parks – including Spring Mill. Learn why the Corps was started in the 1930s what it contributed to our park. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).



Thursday, July 26

- 1:00pm Beauty on the Wing** – Make a beautiful butterfly craft while learning about the types of butterflies commonly seen in the park. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).
- 3:30pm Sage Wisdom** – Discover the many uses of “sage” – from seasoning to medicine to cosmetics – and take home a few unique recipes (want to try “sage mice?”). Pioneer Village, Garden House (30 min).
- 8:00pm**  **Leave it to Beaver** – Join us for an evening hike along the lake edge to look for signs of beaver activity and learn about how they survive. Meet on the back patio of the Nature Center (30 min).



Friday, July 27

- 1-2pm**  **Feed the Birds** – Drop by the Outdoor Amphitheater at the Nature Center and make a simple pinecone bird feeder to attract our feathered friends.
- 3:30pm** **Spectacular Snakes** – Meet some real snakes up close as you learn about the types of snakes that live here in the park. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).
- 8:30pm**  **Pioneer Village Living History Stroll** – Who were the people who lived in Spring Mill Village during the 1800s? Hear of their history, stories, and the rise and fall of village. *Donations accepted.* Meet at Concession Stand (1 hr).


Saturday, July 28

- 11am-1pm**  **Hoosier Quest Series** – Want to earn a bandanna, patch, unique lapel pin, and other goodies? We'll tell you how you can earn them through the Indiana DNR's new "Hoosier Quest" series! There are options for families of all ages and individuals (ages 5 and up) – including a level that can be completed in a single weekend! Watch for the roving naturalist in the Pioneer Village. **HP-HP**
- 11:30am** **Braid It Up** – In this hands-on program, you'll braid jute (a natural fiber) to create a bracelet or bookmark. Pioneer Village, Leatherworker's Shop (30 min).
- 11:30am** **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 2:00pm**  **Toad Homes** – Paint your own toad home while learning about the lifecycle of these amphibians and why you should invite them to live in your garden. *Cost is \$1/person; first-come, first-served while supplies last.* Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (45 min). **HP-HP**

Saturday, July 28 Continued...

- 2:30pm** **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 4:30pm**  **Down to Donaldson** – Explore the underground on this tour of the dry side of Donaldson Cave. Bring a flashlight and wear good shoes. Meet at Donaldson picnic area parking lot at the bulletin board (1 hr).
- 8:00pm**  **Goin' Batty** – Learn about the bats common to Spring Mill and make a bat craft to decorate your campsite. *Bench seating is limited; you may wish to bring your own chairs/blanket.* Campground Amphitheater (next to site #108) (30 min).

Sunday, July 29

- 11:30am** **Tooling Leather** – With guidance from our village leatherworker, you'll use a technique called "tooling" to make a leather bookmark with your initials. Pioneer Village, Leatherworker's Shop (30-60 min).
- 11:30am** **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 12:30pm** **Creek Stomp** – Get your feet wet as we search for some of the water-loving insects that live in Mill Creek. Meet in the grass across from the Concession Stand (45 min). **HP-HP**
- 1-3pm**  **Donaldson Woods Wonders** – Find out a little about the history of the land now preserved as "Donaldson Woods" and the importance of keeping it protected. Watch for the roving naturalist in Twin Caves parking lot. **HP-HP**
- 2:30pm** **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (15 min).
- 3:00pm** **Slimey Snakes** – Are snakes really slimey? Want to find out? You'll meet two of our resident snakes up-close and learn more about how they live. Nature Center, Outdoor Amphitheater (30 min).